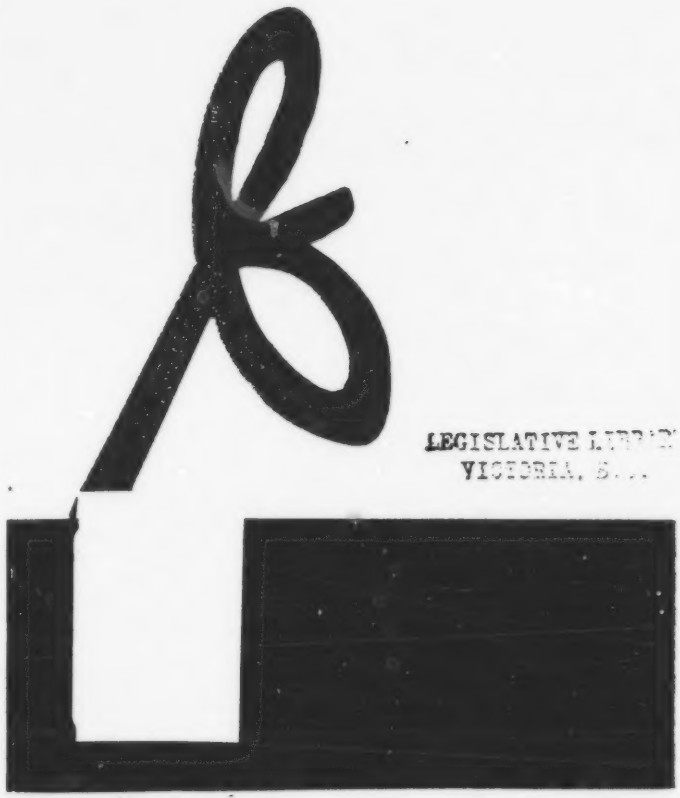
BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Annual Report 1987–1988



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BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

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BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Almost every community in the Province is linked with the Council through individual, family and group members, affiliated agencies and contact persons, providing a wide information-sharing network. Membership alone, represents over 100 communities.

The Provincial Government, through the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, supports the work of the Council by providing office space and salaries for a director and assistant, who are assisted by 9 part-time volunteers. Programs are funded by donations, grants and membership fees.

The work of the Council is based on the belief that families, although changing and adapting as they have through history, do have great strengths, and, if given help when needed, and enough power, can be a major force for the betterment of our society.

We believe that healthy families contribute to healthy communities and a healthy society.

The British Columbia Council for the Family welcomes your interest and support.

The British Columbia Council for the Family, operating under the *Society Act* of British Columbia, has three objectives:

(a) To be a forum where responsible representatives of communities throughout the Province may communicate to each other, and to government and voluntary agencies, their concerns about the needs of the family and receive help in preparing plans and projects to meet such needs;

(b) To stimulate and facilitate self-help projects to support and strengthen families;

(c) In association with appropriate bodies, local, provincial, national or international, to further public knowledge and promote public concern about the well-being of the family.

The British Columbia Council for the Family is a non-profit organization which was incorporated March 23, 1977. The Council is the only provincial agency wholly concerned with the well-being of families.

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Annual Report for Year Ending March 31, 1988

Board of Directors as of the Annual General Meeting October 1, 1987 and Board Meeting, October 2, 1987

Officers of the Society:

President	Dr. Rob Lees	Chilliwack
Past President	Norm Worsley	Victoria
1st Vice President	Lois Powell	Victoria
2nd Vice President		
Secretary	Margaret Peters	Victoria
Treasurer	Bill Sanders	Victoria

Board of Directors:

Muriel Andrews	Victoria
Tunya Audain	West Vancouver
Marilyn Bailey	Terrace
Tom Beames	Ladysmith
Joan Berlow	Vancouver
Shirley Cohn	Burnaby
Rev. Adrian Cooke	Vancouver
Brian Cristall	Dawson Creek
Rev. Dave Dunbar	Marysville
Marjorie Ford	Smithers
Rev. R. Foulis	New Westminster
Stu Gardner	Port Moody
Gloria Harris	Victoria
Hazel Huckvale	Williams Lake
Carolyn Iles	Nanaimo
Sukh Khosla	Burnaby
Gloria Levi	Vancouver
Rose Lum	Victoria
Chuck Luttrell	Vancouver
Kathy Lynn	Vancouver
Steve Norris	Coquitlam
James T. Rabbitt	Victoria
Dr. Har B. Singh	Victoria
Joyce Statton	Vancouver
Phil Sunderland	North Vancouver
Lesley Taylor	Richmond
Jon F. Tollestrup	North Vancouver
John Voykin	Castlegar
Winnifred Weir	Invermere
Joyce Wright	Coquitlam

Staff:

Executive Director	Dr. Carol Matusicky
Executive Assistant	Diane E. Taylor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1987–1988

In this, my last year as President, I would like to reflect on some of the activities of the Council which, I believe, have been important to the position it plays in British Columbia.

1. **The Marriage Preparation Project (MPI), Phase I** gave the Council a new surge of energy and interest. The Marriage Preparation Consultation held on March 14 and 15 enabled us to promote the cause of prevention and marriage preparation, but also to facilitate some important networking. The religious, professional, educational, and governmental communities met around a common concern. Regional dialogues were established which may lead to some new local initiatives on Marriage Preparation.

   The first phase of the MPI has produced two new publications, a Resource Guide for Instructors, and a booklet entitled "Your Marriage Needs Responsible Decisions" which is being distributed with marriage licences. The unique contribution of the Council was the ability to build the forum for development of these documents and then animate diverse interests in this emerging field.

2. **Newsletter:** Last Fall, the Board approved changes to the Newsletter. Largely this has meant contracting the editorial duties out. Typesetting, professional photography, advertising and a carefully designed structure featuring a balance of personal and professional articles has been implemented. The Newsletter travels widely in B.C. and represents us to family organizations throughout Canada and the United States. I believe that these have been worthwhile changes.

   It is my opinion that to many people within and without British Columbia, the Newsletter IS the B.C. Council for the Family. I would hope that we will continue to put resources into it to maintain the current standards and, as funds permit, to make it even more substantial. The Newsletter is an important component of networking, information conduit, roles of the Council.

3. **Relations with Government:** The B.C. Council for the Family began as a result of interest from the religious community, government, family

serving professionals and the community at large. In the past year the Council has continued to enjoy the support of the Provincial Government. Numerous visits have been paid to provincial politicians and administrators. Special mention should be made of the work of the Social Credit appointee to our board, the Honourable Jim Rabbitt who has kept his caucus members abreast of Council activities, and the Honourable John Cashore, N.D.P. Social Services Critic, who has demonstrated consistent support of the Council to his caucus.

At times during my term of office, I have heard, from some quarters, a concern that the Council is becoming "too professional" and "too close to government". If we remember our roots, we remember that these two elements are an integral part of our being. Just as we have established a forum for the common interest of the religious community, we must maintain our connection with these parts of our roots. The Council continues to enjoy the support of the Provincial Government and this is a privileged position that needs nurture. Through the work of Dr. Matusicky, the Council also enjoys good relations with several federal ministries.

Our diverse network and the expertise of our Executive Director have placed the Council in a position that has allowed us to "speak for families" in several forums. For example, Dr. Matusicky sat on a committee commissioned to prepare a working paper for the Royal Commission on Education. She sat on the advisory committee to the development of the new Family Life Education Curriculum. I was able to be a part of a delegation headed by Dr. Howard Biddulph that addressed the Social Credit Caucus on the issue of Casino Gambling. I believe that the Council can be a credible voice for families in the political arena. We must, however, be IN the arena in order to be heard, listended to, understood, and taken seriously.

4. **National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) Affiliation:** Last November, the Council officially became an affiliate of the NCFR. This will seem unimportant to many now, but in time can be very important to the Council and its' work. The NCFR has two family publications, The Journal of Marriage and the Family and Family Relations. Both are important sources of scholarly inquiry regarding family studies. As important as the journals is the Database that NCFR has developed on Family studies. Often people turn to the BCCF for information on families, and the NCFR can help us to find the answers.

   The NCFR has affiliated Councils in most of the states and our affiliation ties us to the scholarly community and a broad network of organizations and individuals with concerns similar to those of our Council. This is an extension of our networking role and in the future can help the work of the BCCF as we learn from the experience of others, and they from us. The last two issues of the NCFR newsletter have carried material from our newsletter which puts us on the map throughout Canada and the U.S.

   The NCFR has recently established a system for the certification of Family Life Educators. Dr. Matusicky and myself met with the Honourable Stan Hagan, Minister of Advanced Education to discuss the possibilities for the training of family life educators. A useful dialogue has begun which, hopefully, will be carried forward. The Council supports family life education in the schools. It is important that those who teach family life education have the best possible qualifications. The NCFR certification is one way to establish levels of competence and encourage further training.

5. **The Future:** I believe that the Council will be instrumental in the development of the field of marriage preparation, in such ways that have only been dreamed of in other jurisdictions. I also believe that the Council will continue to grow as a network and catalyst for family concerns in British Columbia. This will include continuing to consolidate relations with government, the religious community and other family service organizations and professional bodies, such as The B.C. Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (BCAMFT). It is my hope that the Council will, through expansion of the Newsletter, publication of resources, co-sponsorship of workshops and Knowledge Network programming, be able to reach, educate and affirm the striving of ordinary families.

I wish to express my gratitude to the other members of the executive and board for their support through my tenure, and particularly, I would mention the exemplary skill and dedication of Dr. Matusicky.

DR. ROB LEES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT 1987/1988

The fiscal year April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1988 stands out as a landmark year in the history of the B.C. Council for the Family. This year saw the beginning of a new breakthrough for the Council and the culmination of years of promoting and supporting marriage preparation in the province. I extend my deepest appreciation to all the individuals and groups within the province who participated in and supported the Council.

The activities of the 1987/88 fiscal year will be reported under the following headings: NETWORKING, MARRIAGE PREPARATION INITIATIVE, PUBLICATIONS, ON-GOING COUNCIL PROGRAMS.

NETWORKING

A hallmark of the Council from its beginnings, networking continues to be a high priority. Much of the networking is informal — linking groups, sharing information, acting as a resource for families and groups. A great deal of the Council's networking is accomplished through our quarterly Newsletter.

A highlight of the 1987/88 Fiscal year was the improvement made in both the quality and circulation of our Newsletter. The dedicated work of Bill Powell in gathering advertisements for the Newsletter, and the editorial and photographic skills of Toby Snelgrove and Louise Leger resulted in a Newsletter with more appeal in content and wider distribution throughout the Province. Family Month '87 had as its theme "Make Time for Family" and along with a poster, bumper stickers were made available.

As a provincial organization the Council maintains a link with other provincial organizations whose mandates and work complement the mandate and work of the Council. For example, the Council has worked with The Society for Children and Youth and Work Well. As well, the Council continues to be an active participant in The Provincial Consortium on Educational Services to Families. This past year the Council has been represented on several provincial committees: The Family Life Education Advisory Committee (Ministry of Education), The Health Guidance Advisory Committee (Ministry of Education), and the Working Committee on Early Child-

hood Education of the Royal Commission on Education.

Nationally, the Council is a member of the Vanier Institute of the Family and Family Service Canada. The Council continues to represent British Columbia on the National Family Week Committee and the newly formed National Family Life Education Network, both initiatives of Family Service Canada. The Council was also invited to a national meeting held by the Solicitor General (Federal) to assist in the formulation of the theme for this year's National Crime Prevention Week: Family and Community — Partners in Preventing Crime.

Internationally, the Council is a member of the International Union of Family Organizations and its Canadian Committee, and an affiliate of the National Council on Family Relations.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION INITIATIVE:

This past fiscal year the Council was awarded its largest amount of funding support for any project to date. With a grant from the Ministry of Health, a provincial consultation with close to 300 participants representing religious, educational, government and social service interests met to discuss the contents of a resource book for marriage preparation and to network and look at the issues regarding marriage preparation in B.C. The resource book has been revised based on feedback from the Consultation. Also with Ministry of Health funding, a booklet entitled "Your Marriage Needs Responsible Decisions" was distributed to government agents and religious leaders throughout the province. The first printing of 40,000 has been depleted and a second printing is underway.

PUBLICATIONS:

The distribution of Council publications continues to grow dramatically. The main focus in publications this year was the preparation of: "Marriage Preparation a Resource Book for Instructors" and the booklet, "Your Marriage Needs Responsible Decisions." The latter is available free of charge to all couples receiving a marriage licence in B.C., and to anyone who wishes to distribute the booklet through a marriage preparation program.

Other publications are "in the works" — a booklet on hyperactivity and a resource book for use in early childhood education.

ON-GOING COUNCIL PROGRAMS:

The successful DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO FAMILIES AWARD initiated in the 1986/87 fiscal year was held again. The purpose of the AWARD is to recognize exceptional volunteer and professional efforts and outstanding leadership in the cause of better family living in B.C. Forty-six nominations were received from around the province. Special thanks to Kathy Lynn, who chaired the Awards Selection Committee made up of Maria la Rose, Chris Walmsley, and Terry Warren. A special ceremony was held at the Meridien Hotel for the winners: Sandra and Jim Williams of Courtenay and John and Norma Bos of Williams Lake. (The full story of the AWARDS was presented in the Fall '88 Newsletter). Their AWARDS were presented by Alderman Carole Taylor of Vancouver. The Council congratulates these exceptional nominees and winners.

The Council, in conjunction with the KNOWLEDGE NETWORK aired a program entitled "What's Going On? Communication in Families" on October 8, 1987. Presently, plans are underway for a series on self esteem with the Knowledge Network in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the Kaiser Substance Abuse Foundation.

A final highlight of the year that deserves very special mention because of its potential impact on so many families in B.C. is the ROYAL COMMISSION ON EDUCATION. The Council presented a submission to Commissioner Barry Sullivan, Q.C., and amongst other points reiterated the need for cooperation between families and schools.

This has been a year of new initiatives both within our province and within our organization; these initiatives have brought greater recognition to the positive strengths of families. To all those who have supported the B.C. Council for the Family, I extend my deepest appreciation: to the President, Dr. Rob Lees, for his untiring involvement on behalf of the Council, to the Executive and the Board of Directors. Your leadership, cooperation, and support throughout an especially busy year have brought the Council to a new period of growth; to Diane Taylor, for her work in an office with higher volume and ever-expanding demands; to the loyal and competent, cheerful core of volunteers - Ivy Cowan, Mina Wilson, Dorothy Reilly, Gloria Sanders, Nancy MacAulay, Cecilia Robb and Lori Scott-Polson. We could not function without their commitment and hours of

work on behalf of the council. A special thanks to Jane Brasset, Consultation Co-ordinator for her superb work in organizing the Consultation within a short time frame. I would like to thank the Honourable Claude Richmond, Minister of Social Services and Housing; Leslie Arnold, Superintendent of Family and Child Services; Barbara Wilson and other Ministry of Social Services and Housing staff for their help, support and encouragement. To the Honourable Peter Dueck, Minister of Health and to officials within the Ministry of Health with whom the Council worked in formulating plans for the Marriage Preparation Initiative, I extend my sincerest appreciation. Special thanks to Clair Buckley, Ian McConnell, June Wick, Andrew Hume, and Cindy Stephenson for their many hours of meetings and discussions regarding the Marriage Preparation Initiative.

The coming fiscal year will be one of tremendous challenge for the Council as it responds to the demands created by the Marriage Preparation momentum. As with all Council activities, the purpose will continue to be to reaffirm the irreplaceable and irrefutable role of the family in society and to continue the dialogue with church, government and communities throughout our province.

CAROL MATUSICKY, Ph.D.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members
British Columbia Council for the Family

I have examined the balance sheet of the British Columbia Council for the Family as at March 31, 1988, the statement of revenue and expenditures, the statements of source and application of funds in respect of designated projects, and the statement of revenue, expenditures and capital of the Helen Patenaude Endowment Fund for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances, except as noted in the following paragraph.

Donations, by their nature, are not susceptible to complete audit verification. Accordingly my verification of receipts of this type was limited to a comparison of recorded receipts with bank deposits.

In my opinion, except for the effect of any adjustments which might have been required had I been able to completely verify donations, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 1988 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Bruce G. Murray
Chartered Accountant

Victoria, B.C.
September 1, 1988

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

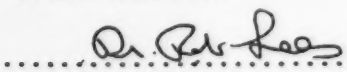
Balance Sheet as at March 31, 1988

Assets	1988	1987
Cash — operating	$51,545	$21,840
— general projects	10,430	2,455
— marriage preparation initiative	85,439	—
Accounts receivable	1,749	—
	149,163	24,295
Fixed assets		
Office equipment — cost	5,640	5,640
Less: accumulated depreciation	3,384	2,256
	2,256	3,384
Trust fund	3,501	3,251
	$154,920	$30,930

Liabilities, Reserves and Equity

Current liabilities		
Accounts payable		
— operating	$ 4,557	$ 2,790
— marriage preparation initiative	38,519	—
	43,076	2,790
Reserves		
Marriage preparation initiative	46,920	—
Education consortium	7,621	—
Completed projects	2,809	2,445
Private agency fund	151	151
Education materials fund	200	200
	57,701	2,806
Equity		
Balance, beginning of year	22,083	16,588
Excess of revenue over expenditures for year	28,559	5,495
	50,642	22,083
Trust fund	3,501	3,251
	$154,920	$30,930

On behalf of the Board



Director

Director

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure For the Year Ended March 31, 1988

Revenue	1988	1987
Operating grant — Government of British Columbia — (Note 2)	$125,000	$122,367
Recovery of expenses — marriage preparation initiative	22,228	—
Publications	13,660	7,674
Grant — B.C. Special Events Fund	5,793	—
Membership fees	4,730	5,104
Workshop	4,230	—
Donations	3,176	1,360
Interest earned	1,234	1,277
Advertising	1,106	—
	181,157	137,782
Expenditures		
Committee expenses		
Executive	5,742	2,498
Public relations	784	327
Family month	2,244	1,015
	8,770	3,840
Administration costs (Note 3)	21,259	18,217
Annual meeting	5,020	4,576
Board meetings and regional development	6,204	3,613
Knowledge network	1,430	—
Newsletter	11,572	4,613
Publications	26,237	23,156
Staff — salaries	53,637	57,480
— employee benefits	9,739	9,799
— travel	8,730	6,993
	152,598	132,287
Excess of revenue over expenditures for year	$ 28,559	$ 5,495

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Grants for Designated Projects
Marriage Preparation Initiative
Statement of Source and Application of Funds
for the Year Ended March 31, 1988

Source of funds		
Grant — Government of British Columbia		$140,000
Interest		1,339
		141,339
Application of funds		
Provincial consultation		
Hotel accommodation and meals	$ 29,802	
Transportation	18,475	
Printed materials	7,257	
Co-ordinator's costs	7,259	
Administrative expenses	7,138	
Speakers	2,260	
	72,191	
Reimbursement of B.C. Council for the Family office costs and contributed labour	22,228	94,419
Funds on hand, end of year		$ 46,920
Funds on hand are composed as follows:		
Cash in bank		$ 85,439
Less: accounts payable		38,519
		$ 46,920

These funds are committed to the follow up to the provincial consultation, including the production of a marriage preparation resource book.

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Grants for Designated Projects — Miscellaneous
Statement of Source and Application of Funds
For the Year Ended March 31, 1988

	1988	1987
Funds on hand, beginning of year	$ 2,455	$ 3,023
Source of funds		
Education consortium	9,641	—
Interest earned	477	100
	12,573	3,123
Application of funds		
Printing, stationery and office	143	440
Travel	—	228
Writer	2,000	—
	2,143	668
Funds on hand, end of year (Note 4)	$10,430	$ 2,455

Helen Patenaude Endowment Fund (Note 5)
Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Capital
For the Year Ended March 31, 1988

	1988	1987
Capital, beginning of year	$ 3,251	$ 2,954
Revenue		
Donations	100	100
Interest earned	157	202
	3,508	3,256
Expenditures		
Bank charges	7	5
Capital, end of year	$ 3,501	$ 3,251

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 1988

1. Sign. .cant Accounting Policies

   Revenue recognition

   Operating grants are recorded on the accrual basis. Grants for designated projects, and membership fees, are recorded in the period in which they are received.

   Fixed assets and depreciation

   Office equipment is recorded at cost, and depreciation is provided on the straight line basis over an estimated useful life of five years.

   Publications

   All costs of publications are charged to expense in the period in which they are incurred.

2. Provincial Government Funding

   The Government of the Province of British Columbia funds the Council's costs of salaries, travel, professional services, office expenses and publications, by means of an operating grant. This grant amounted to $125,000 for the year ended March 31, 1988 ($122,367– March 31, 1987).

3. Administration Costs

	1988	1987
Accounting and audit	$ 1,400	$ 1,393
Depreciation — office equipment	1,128	1,128
Printing, stationery and office	9,817	9,484
Vancouver office — rent	3,300	550
— telephone	4,162	3,563
Volunteer expenses	1,452	2,099
	$21,259	$18,217

4. Project Funds — Miscellaneous

   The funds on hand of $10,430 at the year end are composed as follows:

Provincial Consortium on Family Learning	$ 7,621
Completed projects	2,809
	$10,430

   The unexpended funds of $2,809 are available for designation to future projects.

5. Trust Fund

   The Helen Patenaude Endowment Fund was established in 1983. It is the intention of the Board that this fund will remain intact until the capital and interest have reached an amount of $10,000.